

Omaha WWTP Consultative Group

Agenda and meeting actions #2

PROJECT: Omaha WWTP Consultative Group

DATE: 13/09/2014

REPORT NW

PREPARED BY:

ATTACHMENTS: Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Сору	Name	
	\boxtimes		Bill Tucker	
\boxtimes			David Stone (Omaha Shorebirds Protection Trust)	
\boxtimes			Dean Grice	
\boxtimes			Denis O'Callahan	
\boxtimes			Elizabeth Foster (Whangateau Harbourcare Group)	
\boxtimes			Fiona McKenzie (Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust)	
			Graham Painter (Omaha Beach Community)	
\boxtimes			Hugh McKergow (Whangateau Residents & Ratepayers)	
\boxtimes			lan McDonald (Whangateau Harbourcare Group)	
	\boxtimes		Ines Curin (Point Wells Community & Ratepayers)	
	\boxtimes		John Cranston	
	\boxtimes		John Laurence	
\boxtimes			Keith McSporran (Omaha Shorebirds Protection Trust)	
\boxtimes			Mark Barnett	
	\boxtimes		Mike Bradbury (Point Wells Community & Ratepayers)	
	\boxtimes		Neville Johnson (Matakana Community Group)	
			Noelene Cranston	
	\boxtimes		Raewyn Morrison (Forest & Bird Mid North Branch)	
	\boxtimes		Richard Muir	
	\boxtimes		Roger Grace (Whangateau Harbourcare Group)	
\boxtimes			Theo Verryt	
			Trish Allen	
		\boxtimes	David Wilson (Department of Conservation)	
		\boxtimes	Megan Beard (Auckland Council)	
\boxtimes			Mark James (Aquatic Environmental Sciences)	
\boxtimes			Phil Mitchell (Mitchell Partnerships)	
\boxtimes			Andre Stuart (Watercare)	
			Nicholas Woodley (Watercare)	

Agenda/Actions	Responsibility	Due by
Action Points from 30 August meeting		
Project website – webpage for the project is being developed. This will include presentations, technical reports and other information and should be operational in one to two weeks.		

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Auckland Council, Forest & Bird (Mid North branch) and the Department of Conservation have been contacted and are now on the distribution list for receiving information.		
Terms of Reference		
The Terms of Reference, as determined at the previous consultative group meeting, were confirmed, being moved by Graham Painter and seconded by Keith McSporran.		
Media presence at meetings		
Shortly before the meeting commenced, a reporter from Mahurangi Matters arrived at the meeting. It was pointed out to them that the media is excluded from consultative group meetings and they subsequently left. In discussion with the Chairperson it was agreed that a media statement would be drafted to explain the purpose of the group.		
Presentation on Omaha WWTP	Andre Stuart	
Andre Stuart from Watercare gave a presentation on the current treatment system, including area of service, current treatment process, population statistics, capacity and upgrade options, and existing plant performance and compliance.		
Discussion during this presentation included the following:		
 Is the Tamahunga Drive subdivision at Matakana connected to the wastewater network? Andre and Nicholas agreed to find out. 	Andre/Nicholas	No, outside area of service.
The disposal of septage from properties not connected to the wastewater system was identified as an issue by Elizabeth Foster as it is disposed of in a private disposal facility in the Kaipara Harbour catchment		
The group questioned the population numbers used (current peak 4000, peak in 2050 of 6,000) as the population of Omaha Beach peaks at 8,000 over summer. However whilst the population numbers used in Andre's presentation were an estimate, these were interpolated from the volumes of wastewater currently treated at the Omaha WWTP, which are measured.		
 The key issue concerned the percentage of population growth is in relation to the corresponding percentage increase in flows. In short, there is about 10% capacity headroom in the WWTP at the moment, but this can be expanded to meet growth. 		
There was a general discussion about local treatment plant issues, in particular flows in drains down Jones Road and whether the treatment plant discharge was contributing to these.		
 A discussion followed on the appropriateness of the current consent compliance limits. It is important to note that the existing consent limits do not form the baseline for any future consent conditions. Any 		

Agen	da/Actions	Responsibility	Due by
	replacement application is based on its own merits, rather than what the existing consent allows.		
Prese	ntation on receiving environment		
	rk James gave a presentation entitled "State of knowledge for receiving		
enviro •	nments for the Omaha WWTP". This covered the following matters: Typical nutrient processes		
•	Description of environments – general		
•	Monitoring		
•	Nutrient processes and loadings		
•	Groundwater		
•	Water quality		
•	Microbial and other contaminants		
•	Wetland / Forests		
•	Harbour hydrodynamics		
•	Aquatic plants		
•	Benthic habitats		
•	Fish and birds		
During •	What is the capacity of the soil for denitrification, is there a finite capacity? Measurement of denitrification activity at Jones Road and the Golf course/wetland is required to understand this. Where is the treated wastewater discharged to the discharges going, to the harbour or Omaha Beach? Several group members noted the numerous seeps that are found along Omaha Beach. From the information reviewed, it is thought that the vast majority of this water drains to the Whangateau Harbour; however more information about these pathways is required. It was noted that Ian Hutchinson was		
•	very knowledgeable about this and may be able to provide some information. It was requested that the presentation be circulated.		
•	Roger Grace has a silt trap near Big Omaha Wharf and information from this study will be useful for the group.		
•	The Jones Road drains were raised again, in particular the discharge path from the wastewater treatment plant to the sea. How much of this is due to the plant and is this causing the mangroves in the Waikokopu arm of the Harbour to expand. This is something that would need to be included in the upcoming investigation.		
•	Theo Verryt offered to host the group at his property to view the harbour environment. Interest in visiting the Omaha WWTP was also		

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shown by some members of the group. A site visit to these and possibly other locations will be arranged in the future. No date confirmed as yet.		
Mark's email address is provided for information and references to be sent to him. markj@aquaticsciences.co.nz		
It was agreed that the next meeting would be an opportunity for the group members to discuss the issues of concern to them.		
Next meeting		
The next meeting is Saturday 27 September, 9am at the Point Wells Hall		
This meeting will be an opportunity for the group members to identify the issues they think are important. If members cannot attend the next meeting, they are encouraged to provide written details of their views to Nicholas prior to the meeting.	All	